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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/059,077	04/09/1998	GREGORY E. JOHNSTON		8143
23586	7590	09/21/2005	EXAMINER	
ROBERT E MALM 16624 PEQUENO PLACE PACIFIC PALISADES, CA 90272				NGUYEN, LUONG TRUNG
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				2612

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/059,077	JOHNSTON ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	LUONG T. NGUYEN	2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 July 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. In view of the Appeal Brief filed on 7/01/2005, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. A non-final Office Action set forth below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-2, 5-6, 10, 14, 18-19, 22, 24, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama (JP 08-116476) in view of Klapper et al. (US 5,729,016).

Regarding claim 1, Maruyama discloses a camera and display-control apparatus comprising a fully rotatable camera attached to a mount assembly that is mounted to a vehicle for capturing mobile images (camera 2 is mounted to a moving vehicle, figure 59, page 48, section [0103]); a display-control box (VTR 1, which includes liquid crystal display 5 and operation buttons, figure 1, pages 18-20, sections [0026] through [0029]) having an image display screen (liquid crystal display 5, figure 1) and control buttons (operation buttons, figure 1, pages 18-20,

sections [0026] through [0029]) for controlling said camera; an image capture box for receiving said captured images (VTR 1, figure 1, page 16, section [0023]).

Maruyama fails to specifically disclose a mobile pan and tilt camera; display-control box for controlling the movement of camera and said display-control box being attached to an adjustable mount in said vehicle within an operator's view and reach. However, Klapper et al. teaches a night vision system, which includes a pan and tilt camera 1 mounted on the roof of the vehicle 1010 (figure 1, column 3, lines 40-47) and remote control unit 566 attached in the vehicle within an operator's view and reach (figure 1, column 4, lines 44-51). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Maruyama by the teaching of Klapper al. in order to provide a system, which remotely control pan and tilt of a camera. Doing so, the camera can capture image in larger field of view.

Regarding claim 2, Klapper et al. discloses a full rotation is achieved by mounting said camera to a tilting mechanism mounted on a panning mechanism (camera pointing mechanism 500, which includes tilt gimbal 502, which is mounted on pan gimbal 504, Figures 2-3, Column 4, Lines 52-67).

Regarding claim 5, Klapper et al. discloses a water seal attached to said tilting mechanism (water-resistant case, Column 13, Lines 65-67).

Regarding claim 6, Klapper et al. discloses the mount assembly is adapted to engage the roof-rack of a vehicle (Figure 1).

Regarding claim 10, Klapper discloses a singular support for both said panning mechanism and said tilting mechanism and separate drive gears (tilt drive gear 522, pan drive motor gear 544, Figure 3, Column 5, Lines 12-15, Lines 45-46) and slip clutches (slip ring and brush assembly 536, Figures 3, 6, Column 5, Lines 30-39) for both said panning mechanism and said tilting mechanism.

Regarding claim 14, Klapper et al. discloses said camera may be mounted at any angle with respect to gravity (Figure 1).

Regarding claim 18, Maruyama discloses said display and control system have a set of control buttons positioned to be operated with a single hand (Figure 1, noted that when VTR 1 attached to the vehicle of Klapper et al., VTR 1, which includes display 5 and operation buttons, can be operated with a single hand).

Regarding claim 19, Klapper et al. discloses said display and control system have a viewing angle adjustment lever positioned to be operated with said single hand (Figure 1, joystick 568, Column 4, Lines 44-51).

Regarding claim 22, Klapper et al. discloses said mount assembly includes an adapter plate to mate to a light bar used on emergency and patrol guard vehicles (Figures 1, 2, Column 1, Lines 25-27).

Regarding claim 24, Klapper et al. discloses said mount assembly includes an adapter plate for ship-board attachment (Figure 15).

4. Claims 3-4, 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama (JP 08-116476) in view of Klapper et al. (US 5,729,016) further in view of Paddock et al. (US 5,737,657).

Regarding claim 3, Maruyama and Klapper et al. fail to specifically disclose the mount assembly incorporates a quick disconnect mechanism. However, Paddock et al. discloses an adjustable platform includes a flatform, a mounting plate, to which a camera is attached, and a quick release mechanism (see Abstract, Column 7, Lines 27-30). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Maruyama and Klapper et al. by the teaching of Paddock et al. in order to allow the user to save time when attach or detach the mount assembly to or from a vehicle.

Regarding claim 4, Paddock et al. discloses a double locking mechanism on said mount assembly where one mechanism is a security fastener (quick release mechanism includes two pins 76 and locking screw 77 (security fastener), Figures 6-7, Column 7, Lines 26-45).

Regarding claim 8, Maruyama and Klapper et al. fail to specifically disclose a ball-plunger for self-locking said mount assembly. However, Paddock et al. discloses an adjustable platform includes a flatform, a mounting plate, to which a camera is attached, and a quick release mechanism 70, which includes a ball-plunger 80 (Figures 6-7, Column 7, Lines 27-

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30). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Maruyama and Klapper et al. by the teaching of Paddock et al. in order to lock the mount assembly.

Regarding claim 9, Paddock et al. discloses a security fastener as secondary and operator activated mechanical locking mechanism for said mount assembly (quick release mechanism includes two pins 76 and locking screw 77 (security fastener), Figures 6-7, Column 7, Lines 26-45).

5. Claims 7, 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama (JP 08-116476) in view of Klapper et al. (US 5,729,016) further in view of Sclater (US 5,365,687).

Regarding claims 7 and 21, Maruyama and Klapper et al. fail to specifically disclose said mount assembly is adapted to engage a THULE brand roof rack system or mates to a YAKIMA brand roof rack system. However, Sclater discloses a vehicular roof-top collapsible display frame assembly for mobile advertising, which uses the well-known “Thule” or “Yakima” trademarked roof-top carriers (Column 3, Lines 45-53). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Maruyama and Klapper et al. by the teaching of Paddock et al. in order to allow the user can attach the mount assembly to different type of vehicle.

6. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama

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(JP 08-116476) in view of Klapper et al. (US 5,729,016) further in view of Kurian (US 5,762,556).

Regarding claim 11, Maruyama and Kappler et al. fail to specifically disclose said slip clutch comprises a rotationally free gear; a support housing for gear; a friction pad co-aligned to said gear between said gear and said support housing; a wave washer to apply a pressure against said rotationally free gear and said support housing of sufficient force to enable a motor to drive said gear and said support housing to a point where said support housing stops rotating and said rotationally free gear breaks friction of said friction pad while said motor continues to drive without overheating. However, Kurian discloses an adjustable free motion friction clutch, which has a free rotation control, a friction disc 16, washer 24, Figures 1-2, 5, Column 2, Lines 30-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Maruyama and Klapper et al. by the teaching of Kurian in order to provide an adjustable free motion friction clutch (Column 1, Lines 25-28).

7. Claims 12, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama (JP 08-116476) in view of Klapper et al. (US 5,729,016) further in view of Sergeant et al. (US 5,107,286) and Kennedy et al. (US 4,695,881).

Regarding claim 12, Maruyama and Klapper et al. fail to specifically disclose a camera enclosure is sealed with an o-ring for moisture blocking. However, Sergeant et al. discloses a sealed camera housing 10, which includes "O" ring 22 (Figures 1-2, Column 3, Lines 18-32). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Maruyama and Klapper et al. by the teaching of Sergeant et al.

in order to protect a camera from damage by the environment within which it is placed (Column 1, Lines 8-10).

Maruyama and Klapper et al. and Sergeant et al. fail to specifically disclose a camera enclosure with bezel opening that is threaded to accept optical filters. However, Kennedy et al. discloses a camera housing, which has an opening to accept optical filter 36 (Figure 2, Column 5, Lines 23-26). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Maruyama, Klapper et al. and Sergeant et al. by the teaching of Kennedy et al. in order to allow proper focusing without the use of a spacer (Column 5, Lines 25-26).

Regarding claim16, Kennedy et al. discloses the camera enclosure is adapted to act as an additional heat sink (Column 5, Lines 4-9).

8. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama (JP 08-116476) in view of Klapper et al. (US 5,729,016) further in view of McMahon (US 5,093,677).

Regarding claim 13, Maruyama and Klapper et al. fail to specifically discloses a Field of View (FOV) stabilized camera which provides an electronic compensation to overcome mechanical gear backlash and vibration. However, McMahon discloses this information in column 1, lines 40, and 51-57. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to construct a device

that has a FOV stabilized camera because the camera will provide better pictures of moving images when it pans and tilts.

9. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama (JP 08-116476) in view of Klapper et al. (US 5,729,016) further in view of Baumeister (US 4,739,409).

Regarding claim 15, Maruyama and Klapper et al. fail to specifically disclose a bimetal heat sink for camera power supply temperature control. However, Baumeister discloses heat sink 14 support cooler 10 for cooling imager chip 8 (Figure 2, Column 3, Lines 55-63). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Maruyama and Klapper et al. by the teaching of Baumeister in order to keep the camera from overheating.

10. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama (JP 08-116476) in view of Klapper et al. (US 5,729,016) further in view of Balkwill et al. (US 4,408,695).

Regarding claim 17, Maruyama and Klapper et al. fail to specifically disclose said camera enclosure incorporates a one-way moisture passage plug with flexible and sealed passage for wires. However, Balkwill et al. discloses an electrical box, which prevents moisture from entering the box. The electrical box also includes a plug and opening that receives a wire, which is sealed and resists moisture passage (Column 1, Lines 35-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the

device in Maruyama and Klapper et al. by the teaching of Balkwill et al. in order to prevent moisture from entering the camera housing. This prevents the damage of the camera.

11. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama (JP 08-116476) in view of Klapper et al. (US 5,729,016) further in view of Tovi (US 4,225,881).

Regarding claim 20, Maruyama and Klapper et al. fail to specifically disclose an optically clear or tinted sphere enclosing said camera. However, Tovi discloses a transparent globe 12, which contains camera 30 (Figure 2, Column 4, Line 63 – Column 5, Line 29). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Maruyama and Klapper et al. by the teaching of Tovi in order to conceal the camera from the images being surveyed.

12. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama (JP 08-116476) in view of Klapper et al. (US 5,729,016) further in view of Yang (US 4,578,665).

Regarding claim 23, Maruyama and Klapper et al. fail to specifically disclose said mount assembly is adaptable to a rail road locomotive attachment. However, Yang discloses a video surveillance train car, which includes camera 138 (Figure 17, Column 8, Lines 1-5). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the mount assembly adaptable to a train car in order to attach the camera to the train car.

13. Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maruyama

(JP 08-116476) in view of Klapper et al. (US 5,729,016) further in view of Kujirada (JP 10-3-4339).

Regarding claim 25, Maruyama discloses capturing said images in an image capture box for storage (VTR 1, figure 1) and Klapper et al. discloses a process for viewing a scene with mobile pan or tilt camera of claim 1 comprising the steps of mounting said camera to a vehicle for capturing mobile images (Klapper et al., camera 1 is mounted on vehicle 1010, figure 1, column 3, lines 40-47); displaying said images on an image display screen (combiner 1030, figure 1, column 4, lines 10-15); controlling said camera position from within said vehicle (column 4, lines 44-51).

Maruyama and Klapper et al. fail to specifically disclose transmission of said captured mobile images; and transmitting said captured mobile images by radio frequency transmission to a data storage server for further processing; and providing said captured mobile images on internet server for official or consumer access. However, Kujirada discloses a vehicle video providing system and virtual vehicle traveling system, in which video data from each vehicle 3-5 are transmitted through a radio communication network and an internet 1 to a video managing computer 2 (see Abstract, Figure 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Maruyama and Klapper et al. by the teaching of Kujirada in order to transmit video image to a remote location.

Conclusion

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LUONG T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-7315. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WENDY GARBER can be reached on (571) 272-7308. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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THAI TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

A handwritten signature of "THAI TRAN" is written over a printed title "PRIMARY EXAMINER". The signature is fluid and cursive, while the title is in a bold, sans-serif font.